

SYSTEM FOR AND METHOD OF PROTECTING A USERNAME DURING AUTHENTICATION OVER A NON-ENCRYPTED CHANNEL

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The system and method herein involve obscuring or encrypting a user identification (ID) for use in a plain text, unencrypted authentication scheme, such as Digest, Basic, or NTLM authentication. An exemplary embodiment of the system and method involves the creation of an obscured username that can be communicated over a unsecure communication channel, such as, a wireless communication channel, without disclosing identification information to third parties. One way in which the obscured username is created is by encrypting a plain text username. Both the obscured username and plain text username are stored at the client such that the obscured username is communicated over unsecure channels when the user enters the plain text username. Thus, the obscuring process is transparent to the user.